



Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Health



Governor Ted Strickland
Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher

ODA Director Robert J. Boggs
ODH Acting Director Anne R. Harnish

To: Health Commissioners, Environmental Health Directors, Nursing Directors,
ODA Food Safety Specialists, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Recall Announcement (ODA/ODH) 2007-26

Date: March 29, 2007

Nationwide Recall of Cerignola, Nocellara and Castelvetro Olives Because of Possible Health Risk

Charlie Brown di Rutigliano & Figli S.r.l, in Bari Italy, is recalling Cerignola Olives, Nocellara Olives and Castelvetro Olives from distribution because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Clostridium botulinum*, a bacterium that can cause a life-threatening illness or death. Consumers are warned not to use the product even if it does not look or smell spoiled.

Botulism, a potentially fatal form of food poisoning, can cause the following symptoms: general weakness, dizziness, double vision and trouble with speaking or swallowing. Difficulty in breathing, weakness of other muscles, abdominal distension and constipation may also be common symptoms. People experiencing these problems should seek immediate medical attention.

The recalled olives were distributed to wholesalers, who then distributed them nationally to restaurants and retail stores.

This recall covers all sizes of cans, glass jars and pouches of Cerignola Olives, Nocellara Olives and Castelvetro Olives containing codes beginning with the letter "G" followed by 3 or 4 digits under the following brands: Borrelli, Bonta di Puglia, Cento, Corrado's, Dal Raccolto, Flora, Roland and Vantia.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

The potential for contamination was noted after routine testing found that the product had a higher than required pH.

In response to these findings, the firm has amended its process to assure new product meets pH requirements.

Consumers who have purchased these types of olives are urged to visit their retailer to determine if the olives are from Charlie Brown di Rutigliano & Figli S.r.l. If they are the recalled products you will be issued a full refund.

Consumers with questions may contact the company at 011-039-080-7839073 (phone), or charliebrownbari@yahoo.com (e-mail).